(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Increase in LIC's Equity

2873. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are allowing Life Insurance Corporation to increase its exposure to equity from 7 per cent to 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof and from which date;

(c) whether banks and pensions funds will also be asked to invest in equity and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether professional fund managers will be allowed to manage LIC's equity portfolio without any interference/direction from Government; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Investments by Banks for Development of Industries

2874. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of investments made in the different States of the country by the nationalised banks and financial institutions for the promotion and development of industries during the last three years, State-wise/ district-wise/year-wise/bank-wise;

(b) whether Government have formulated any specific Action Plan to liberalise the terms and conditions for grant of loan by the banks for setting up of various industries including SSI units in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Entitlement of free local calls for ocfficers

†2875. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since 1982, officers eligible for residential telephones are entitled to 650 free local calls on bi-monthly basis; and

(b) whether Government propose to review the matter and raise the limit of 650 calls;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)No,Sir.

Training to representatives of Panchayats

f2876. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being run by Central Government to create awareness among the representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions and members of the Standing Committees of Gram Sabha;

(b) the ratio of the share of Central Government and the State Governments in the amount provided, if any, by Central Government for imparting training to the representatives of Panchayats; and

(c) whether Central Government are contemplating to enhance its own share?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The name of the scheme being run by Central Government to create awareness among the representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Members of the Standing Committees of Gram Sabha is "Panchayat Development & Training". The budget provision for Panchayat Development and Training for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 29.40 crore.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.